World Bank assistance to drought hit States

2661. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States which received World Bank assistance during the recent drought; and

(b) the extent to which these States received assistance from World Bank to tackle drought in the respective States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SHRI S. B. P. B. K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) This Ministry is not aware of any assistance given by the World Bank to the drought affected States.

Increasing unemployment in agriculture sector

2662. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether unemployment is increasing in agriculture sector;

(b) if so, what action have been taken by Government for providing adequate opportunity for employment and in what manner such employment will be provided; and

(c) whether the increasing unemployment in agriculture sector will be absolved in employment opportunities in services sector, without 100 per cent literacy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) As per information provided by the Planning Commission, the percentage distribution of usually working persons in agriculture sector has declined from 74.0 in 1972-73 to 64.8 in 1993-94.

(b) and (c) Several programmes are already being implemented by the Government to create employment opportunities in the rural areas. These include Swaran Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana, the Employment Assurance Scheme etc. However, the Government have recently finalised the National